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Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing is the patent application of:

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FOR: REFLECTION-TYPE COLOR LIQUID CRYSTAL DISPLAY APPARATUS AND
METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING THE SAME

Enclosed are the following:

- Specification: 31 pages; Claims: 3 pages; Abstract: 1 page
- Declaration and Power of Attorney
- Sheet(s) of drawings 17 pages
- An assignment of the invention to: NEC CORPORATION


Priority is hereby claimed under 35 USC 119 by way of Japanese patent application No. 11-296002
filed October 18, 1999.

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TITLE OF THE INVENTION
REFLECTION-TYPE COLOR LIQUID CRYSTAL DISPLAY APPARATUS AND
METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING THE SAME

5 BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to a reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus and a method for manufacturing the same. More particularly, the invention
10 relates to a reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus and a method for manufacturing the same, wherein a color filter is provided on a substrate where a liquid crystal driving element is formed.

Description of the Related Art

15 As display apparatuses for various information apparatuses or the like, reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatuses are widely used. Fig. 1 is a sectional view showing a structure of one example of a conventional reflection-type color liquid crystal display
20 apparatus. The conventional reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus comprises, as shown in Fig. 1, a liquid crystal driving element formation substrate 101 on which a thin film transistor (TFT) serving as a switching element (a driving element) for driving a liquid crystal is
25 formed, an opposite substrate 102 which is opposed to the substrate 101, and a liquid crystal 103 sandwiched between both the substrates 101 and 102.

The liquid crystal driving element formation substrate

101 comprises, as shown in Fig. 1, a transparent insulation
substrate 104 made of glass or the like; a gate electrode
105 and a reflection plate 106 formed of aluminum, aluminum
alloy or the like, which is formed on the transparent
5 substrate 104; a gate insulation film 107 formed of silicon
nitride or the like, which is formed on the gate electrode
105 and the reflection plate 106; a semiconductor layer 108
formed of an amorphous silicon or the like, which is formed
on the gate insulation film 107 above the gate electrode
10 105; a drain electrode 109 and a source electrode 110 formed
of chromium or the like, which are connected to both ends of
the semiconductor layer 108, respectively; and an insulation
protection film 111 formed of silicon nitride or the like,
which covers the drain electrode 109, the semiconductor
15 layer 108 and the source electrode 110. The gate electrode
105, the gate insulation film 107, the semiconductor layer
108, the drain electrode 109 and the source electrode 110
constitute the TFT.

Furthermore, the liquid crystal driving element
20 formation substrate 101 comprises a black matrix 112 formed
on the insulation protection film 111, for preventing the
incidence of light into the TFT and shielding light at a
portion which is not associated with display; a color filter
113 formed on the insulation protection film 111; an
25 insulation protection film 114 made of acryl polymer or the
like, which covers the black matrix 112 and the color filter
113; a contact hole 117 formed in the insulation protection
film 111, the black matrix 112 and the insulation protection

film 114 so as to reach the source electrode 110, a pixel electrode 115 formed of Indium Tin Oxide (ITO) which is formed on the insulation protection film 114 so as to be connected to the source electrode 110 via the contact hole 117; and a liquid crystal orientation layer 116 formed of polyimide or the like, which is formed on the pixel electrode 115.

Furthermore, the opposite substrate 102 comprises a transparent insulation substrate 121 formed of glass or the like; a common opposite electrode 122 formed of ITO or the like which is formed on the transparent insulation substrate 121; and a liquid crystal orientation layer 123 formed of polyimide or the like, which is formed on the opposite electrode 122.

According to the conventional reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus having the above structure, since the black matrix 112 and the color filter 113 are formed on the liquid crystal driving element formation substrate 101, an overlap margin is not required to be taken wherein a deviation of both the substrates 101 and 102 are considered in the case of assembling the reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus by sandwiching the liquid crystal 103 between the liquid crystal driving element formation substrate 101 and the opposite substrate 102, so that an opening ratio can be enlarged as compared with other structures in which the black matrix 112 and the color filter 113 are formed on the opposite substrate 102, and brighter display can be provided.

In the reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus having the structure described above, light scattering mechanism for scattering light incident from the side of the opposite substrate 102 is required especially
5 when a white color is displayed.

For example, Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. hei 11-84415 discloses one example of a reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus which provides a white color display as described above. Fig. 2 is a
10 sectional view showing a structure of another conventional reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus. As shown in Fig. 2, the another conventional reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus is constituted such that a light scattering plate 125 is provided outside of the
15 transparent insulation substrate 121 of the opposite substrate 102. In other words, the another conventional reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus allows the light scattering plate 125 provided outside of a panel of the opposite substrate 102 to function as light
20 scattering mechanism to provide a white color display. Except for the above, the constitution shown in Fig. 2 is approximately the same as that shown in Fig. 1, so that respective portions of Fig. 2 corresponding to those of the conventional reflection-type color liquid crystal display
25 apparatus shown in Fig. 1 are denoted with same reference numerals, and an explanation thereof will be omitted here.

However, since the conventional reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus is provided with the light

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scattering mechanism outside of the opposite substrate, there is a problem that the starting point of scattering is set at a point distant from the liquid crystal so that the contrast is lowered.

5 Figs. 3 and 4 are sectional views for schematically explaining the reason why the contrast is lowered in the conventional reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus. In the case where the scattering plate 125 serving as the light scattering mechanism is provided
10 outside of the opposite substrate 102, light 131A, 131B, 131C,...131N incident on a specific incident light region 130 from the outside are irregularly reflected at a boundary portion between the scattering plate 125 and the opposite substrate 102 to be spread in a radial configuration. Then,
15 after part of the irregularly reflected light is incident on the end portion of a color filter 113, for example, a R(Red) color filter 113R of an R pixel through a liquid crystal 103R (Red), it is reflected by the reflection plate 106 to pass through a B(Blue) color filter 113B of a B(Blue) pixel
20 which is adjacent to the R pixel and a liquid crystal 103B (Blue) of the B pixel adjacent to the R pixel, and the light is emitted as abnormal light 131X. Essentially, it is desired that, after the light incident on the color filter 113R of the R pixel is reflected by the reflection plate 106,
25 the light passes only through the color filter 113R of the R pixel and liquid crystal 103R and it is emitted as normal light 131Z. As apparent from what has been described above, the specific incident light region 130 causes the generation

of color mixing or uncontrollable light.

The fact that light passes through two color filters like light 134 shown in Fig.4 means that a color mixing is generated. On a pixel region on which red color is to be
5 essentially displayed, the mixed color of red and blue colors is displayed. Furthermore, the light passes through the liquid crystals of the two pixel regions with the result that uncontrollable light 135 in which a phase difference cannot be predicted is generated, because the light passes
10 through liquid crystals 103R and 103B and are controlled differently each other. Consequently, the luminance at the time of black display will rise, for example, even if the color filter 113R of the R pixel attempts to provide a black display. Naturally, in the case where the light passes
15 through both the color filter 113B and the liquid crystal 103B of the adjacent B pixels like light 136, both of the color mixing and uncontrollable light are simultaneously generated. The degree of such color mixing and the degree of the generation of uncontrollable light become large with
20 an increase in light which traces the same path as the abnormal light 131X described above with the result that the hue reproduction zone is narrowed and the contrast is lowered. The lowering of the contrast becomes more remarkable as the starting point of scattering generated by
25 the scattering plate 125, namely the position where the scattering plate 125 exists becomes distant from the liquid crystal 103.

Furthermore, as shown in Fig. 4, light 136 which

passes through the liquid crystal 103R of the R(red) pixel region to enter into the color filter 113B of the adjacent B(blue) pixel and passes through the liquid crystal 103B of the blue pixel region to be emitted outside becomes
5 different from light which the blue pixel essentially intends to display, thus leading to the lowering in the contrast. Consequently, even if the light does not pass through two color filters, the contrast is lowered only when the light passes through the portion of the liquid crystal
10 103 in the adjacent pixel region.

Furthermore, in the reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus having the conventional structure, the visibility of the emitted light is deteriorated. Fig. 5 is a sectional view schematically explaining the reason why
15 the visibility is deteriorated in the conventional reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus.

In the case where an observer observes a view from a front surface position 132, light reflected by the reflection plate 106 to be emitted includes generation of
20 light 137 which is directed in a slanting direction from the boundary of the pixel except for the light 133 which is directed to the front surface position 132 with the result that this light 137 is scattered with the scattering plate 125 and part of this light 137 becomes light 138 which is
25 directed toward the front surface position 132.

Consequently, an observer comes to observe displayed image which is deviated by a distance between the light 133 and the light 138, so that the observer observes a blurred

double image thereby deteriorating the visibility thereof.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

An object of the present invention is to provide a
5 reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus and a
method for manufacturing the same, wherein contrast and
visibility can be improved in a case where a white color is
displayed by providing light scattering mechanism.

The present invention provides a reflection-type color
10 liquid crystal display apparatus where a liquid crystal is
sandwiched between a liquid crystal driving element
formation substrate and an opposite substrate. A color
filter is provided on the liquid crystal driving element
formation substrate. Light scattering mechanism is provided
15 on the side of the liquid crystal of the opposite substrate.

The light scattering mechanism comprises, for example,
an uneven portion formed on a surface of a transparent
insulation substrate serving as the opposite substrate,
which is positioned on the side of the liquid crystal.

20 Besides, the light scattering mechanism may be
constituted of a flattened film formed to cover the uneven
portion formed on the surface of the transparent insulation
substrate.

Furthermore, the light scattering mechanism may be
25 constituted of a scattering auxiliary film having a
different refraction index from the uneven insulation film
formed on the uneven insulation film.

In this case, it is preferable that the refraction

index of the uneven insulation film is larger than that of the scattering auxiliary film.

Besides, it is preferable that the light scattering mechanism may be constituted of a flattened film formed to
5 cover the uneven insulation film.

Furthermore, light scattering mechanism may be constituted of, for example, a flattened and scattering film formed to cover the uneven insulation film.

According to the reflection-type color liquid crystal
10 display apparatus of the present invention, the light scattering mechanism is provided on the side of the liquid crystal of the opposite substrate, so that the starting point of scattering in the opposite substrate is set to a point near to the liquid crystal. Thus, the generation of
15 undesired light such as mixed color light, uncontrollable light or the like can be decreased.

The present invention provides a method for manufacturing a reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus in which a liquid crystal is sandwiched between a
20 liquid crystal driving element formation substrate and an opposite substrate, and a color filter is provided on the liquid crystal driving element formation substrate. The method comprises the steps of: after forming a liquid crystal driving element on a first transparent insulation
25 substrate forming a liquid crystal driving element formation substrate by forming at least a color filter on the transparent insulation substrate; forming an opposite substrate provided with light scattering mechanism on the

surface of a second transparent insulation substrate; and sandwiching the liquid crystal between the liquid crystal driving element formation substrate and the opposite substrate by arranging the opposite substrate such that the light scattering mechanism of the opposite substrate is positioned on the side of the liquid crystal.

It is preferable that the light scattering mechanism is provided so as to include a uneven portion.

The uneven portion can be formed by a processing method including, for example, a sand blast method, and a photo-etching method.

In the method for manufacturing a reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus of the present invention, the light scattering mechanism can be provided with a simple method because the light scattering mechanism is constituted by forming the uneven portion on the side of the liquid crystal of the opposite substrate.

Consequently, in the case where the light scattering mechanism is provided to display a white color, contrast and visibility can be improved.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Fig. 1 is a sectional view showing a structure of one example of a conventional reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus.

Fig. 2 is a sectional view showing a structure of another conventional reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus.

5 Fig. 4 is a sectional view for schematically explaining a reason why contrast is lowered in the conventional reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus.

Fig. 6 is a plan view showing a structure of a reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus according to a first embodiment of the present invention.

Fig. 8 is a sectional view for schematically explaining a reason why contrast is improved in the reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus according to the first embodiment.

Figs. 10A and 10B are sectional views showing a method for manufacturing a reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus according to the first embodiment in order

of steps.

Fig. 11A and 11B are sectional view showing the method for manufacturing the reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus according to the first embodiment of the
5 next step of Fig. 10B in order of steps thereof.

Fig. 12 is a model view showing one example of a process method for forming the light scattering mechanism in the method for manufacturing the reflection-type color display apparatus according to the first embodiment.

10 Fig. 13 is a sectional view showing another example of the process method for forming the light scattering mechanism in the method for manufacturing the reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus according to the first embodiment.

15 Fig. 14 is a sectional view showing a structure of the reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus according to a second embodiment of the present invention.

Fig. 15 is a sectional view showing a structure of the reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus
20 according to a third embodiment of the present invention.

Fig. 16 is a sectional view showing a structure of the reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus according to a fourth embodiment of the present invention.

Fig. 17 is a sectional view showing a structure of the
25 reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus according to a fifth embodiment of the present invention.

Fig. 18 is a sectional view showing a structure of the reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus

according to a sixth embodiment of the present invention.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Embodiments of the present invention will be described
5 in detail hereinbelow with referring to the accompanied
drawings.

(First Embodiment)

Fig. 6 is a plan view showing a structure of a
reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus
10 according to a first embodiment of the present invention.
Fig. 7 is a sectional view taken along line A-A of Fig. 6.
Fig. 8 is a sectional view for schematically explaining a
reason why contrast is improved in the reflection-type color
liquid crystal display apparatus according to the first
15 embodiment. Fig. 9 is a sectional view for schematically
explaining a reason why visibility is excellent with the
reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus
according to the first embodiment. Figs. 10A and 10B and
Figs. 11A and 11B are sectional views showing the method for
20 manufacturing the reflection-type color liquid crystal
display apparatus according to the first embodiment in order
of steps. Fig. 12 is a model view showing one example of
the process method for forming light scattering mechanism in
the method for method for manufacturing the reflection-type
25 color liquid crystal display apparatus according to the
first embodiment. Fig. 13 is a sectional view showing
another example of the process method for forming the light
scattering mechanism in the method for manufacturing the

reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus according to the first embodiment. Incidentally, in Fig. 6, an insulation protection film 14 is not shown and a black matrix 12, a pixel electrode 15 and a contact hole 17 are
5 denoted by a two dot chain line.

As shown in Figs. 6 and 7, the reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus of the embodiment comprises a liquid crystal driving element formation substrate 1 on which a TFT is formed which operates as a switching element
10 (a driving element), an opposite substrate 2, and a liquid crystal 3 sandwiched between substrates 1 and 2.

In the liquid crystal driving element formation substrate 1, as shown in Figs. 6 and 7, a gate electrode 5 and a reflection plate 6 are formed of glass or the like.
15 This gate electrode 5 and the reflection plate 6 is made of aluminum or aluminum alloy. On the gate electrode 5 and the reflection plate 6, a gate insulation film 7 is formed of silicon nitride or the like. On the gate insulation film 7 above the gate electrode 5, a semiconductor layer 8 is
20 formed of amorphous silicon or the like. From both ends of the semiconductor layer 8, a drain electrode 9 and a source electrode 10 formed of chromium or the like are extracted, and an insulation protection film 11 is formed to cover the drain electrode 9, the semiconductor layer 8 and the source
25 electrode 10. This insulation protection film 11 is made of silicon nitride or the like. Here, the gate electrode 5, the gate insulation film 7, the semiconductor layer 8, the drain electrode 9 and the source electrode 10 constitutes

the TFT.

Furthermore, in the liquid crystal driving element formation substrate 1, a black matrix 12 is formed on the insulation protection film 11 for shielding the portion which is not associated with the prevention of the light incidence of TFT and the display of the TFT. A color filter 13 is formed on this insulation protection film 11. An insulation protection film 14 made of acryl polymer or the like is formed so as to cover the black matrix 12 and the color filter 13. On the insulation protection film 11, the black matrix 12 and the insulation protection film 14, a contact hole 17 is formed which attains the source electrode 10. On the insulation protection film 14, the pixel electrode 15 is formed so as to be connected to the source electrode 10 via the contact hole 17. The pixel electrode is made of ITO. On the pixel electrode 15, a liquid crystal orientation layer 16 is formed of polyimide or the like.

Furthermore, on the opposite substrate 2, the uneven portion 24 is formed on the surface of the second transparent insulation substrate 21 formed of glass or the like on the side of the liquid crystal 3. A flattened film 25 made of acryl, polyimide or the like is formed to cover the uneven portion 24 of the second transparent insulation substrate 21. On the flattened film 25, a common opposite electrode 22 is formed of ITO or the like, and a liquid crystal orientation layer 23 is formed of polyimide or the like.

The uneven portion 24 of the second transparent

insulation substrate 21 is covered with the flattened film 25 and constitutes light scattering mechanism. In other words, the first embodiment is characterized in that light scattering mechanism is provided on the side of the liquid crystal 3 of the opposite substrate 2.

Here, since the height difference of the surface of the second transparent insulation substrate 21 renders the thickness of the liquid crystal 3 even, it is desired that the thickness is 1mm or less. For this purpose, the thickness of the flattened film 25 is required to be sufficient to cover the height difference of the uneven portion 24. Furthermore, it is desired that the height difference is on the same level or not more than the thickness of the liquid crystal 3 (3 to 10 μm). The reason is that in the case where the reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus is assembled by sandwiching the liquid crystal 3 between the liquid crystal driving element formation substrate 1 and the opposite substrate 2, the flattened film 25 does not attain the liquid crystal driving element formation substrate 1 to damage the substrate 1 even if the uneven portion 24 is not sufficiently planarized owing to the failure of the flattened film 25. The uneven portion 24 of the second transparent insulation substrate 21 is formed by the processing method such as the sand blast method or the photo-etching method and the like as described later.

As described above, in the structure of the first embodiment, the light scattering mechanism is provided on

the side of the liquid crystal 3 of the opposite substrate 2 so that the starting point of scattering in the opposite substrate 2 can be set to a point near from the liquid crystal 3. Thus, the generation of undesirable light such as mixed color light or uncontrollable light is decreased and contrast can be improved because the starting point of scattering in the opposite substrate 2 can be set to a point near from the liquid crystal 3.

Fig. 8 is a view for schematically explaining the reason why the contrast is improved. In the first embodiment, the light scattering mechanism comprising the uneven portion 24 and the flattened film 25 (not shown in Fig. 8) is provided on the side of the second transparent insulation substrate 21 with the result that the starting point of scattering is set to the point near from the liquid crystal 3 as apparent from the comparison with Fig. 3. Consequently, light 31A, 31B and 31C incident on the specific incident light region 30 is irregularly reflected with the uneven portion 24 constituting the light scattering mechanism to be reflected with the reflection plate 6 with the result that the light passes through a color filter 13B and a liquid crystal 3B of the B(Blue) pixel which is adjacent to R(Red) pixel and emitted as abnormal light 31X. As apparent from the comparison with Fig. 3, the quantity of abnormal light 31X decreases. On the other hand, after the light is incident on the color filter 13R of the R pixel to be reflected at the reflection plate 6, the quantity of normal light 31Z to be emitted only through the color filter

13R of the R pixel and the liquid crystal 3R increases.
That is, the width of the specific incident light region
which causes the generation of color mixing or
uncontrollable light is narrower than the conventional
5 display apparatus. As a consequence, the degree of the
generation of the color mixing or uncontrollable light can
be made small. Therefore, contrast and visibility can be
improved.

Furthermore, according to the first embodiment,
10 visibility can be improved in the case where light is
emitted. Fig. 9 is a sectional view for schematically
explaining the reason why visibility is improved.

In the case where the observer observes a view from
the front surface position 32, light 37 is generated which
15 is directed in a slanting direction from the boundary of the
pixel except for light 33 which is directed toward the front
surface position 32. This light 37 is scattered with the
uneven portion 24 of the second transparent insulation
substrate 21, so that part of the light 37 is converted into
20 unusual light 38 which is directed toward the front surface
position 32. In this case, since the uneven portion 24 of
the second transparent insulation substrate 21 is formed on
the side of the liquid crystal 3, and the starting point of
scattering is set to a point near from the liquid crystal 3,
25 the distance between light 33 and light 38 becomes small as
apparent from the comparison with Fig. 5. Thus, the blurred
degree of the display image can be made small for that
portion. Consequently, visibility can be improved.

Next, by referring to the Figs. 10A and 10B and Figs. 11A and 11B, a method for manufacturing a reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus according to the first embodiment can be explained in order of steps.

5 In the beginning, as shown in Fig. 10A, after an aluminum film is formed on the whole surface of the first transparent insulation substrate 4 formed of glass or the like by the sputtering method, the aluminum film is patterned with the known photolithography method, and the
10 gate electrode 5 and the reflection plate 6 having desired configurations are formed at the same time. Since aluminum is a material which has a high reflection rate, aluminum displays an excellent characteristic as the reflection plate 6. Incidentally, since pure aluminum easily generates
15 hillock, it is preferable to use aluminum alloy which is mixed with other material such as several % of neodium or the like as a reflection plate 6.

Next, silicon nitride is deposited on the whole surface of the substrate 4 by the CVD (Chemical Vapor
20 Deposition) method to form a gate insulation film 7. Next, after an N-type amorphous silicon layer is formed on the whole surface of the substrate 4 by the CVD method, the amorphous silicon layer is patterned with the photolithography method, so that a semiconductor layer 8 is
25 formed on the gate insulation film 7 above the gate insulation electrode 5. Next, after the chromium layer is formed on the whole surface of the substrate 4 by the sputtering method, the chromium layer is patterned with the

photolithography method to form the drain electrode 9 and the source electrode 10. Next, the silicon nitride film is formed on the whole surface of the substrate 4 by CVD method to form an insulation protection film 11. This insulation protection film 11 is formed to protect the semiconductor layer 8 from the outside atmosphere. In the procedure described above, the TFT is formed which comprises the gate electrode 5, the gate insulation film 7, the semiconductor layer 8, the drain electrode 9 and the source electrode 10 which are formed on the first transparent insulation protection film 4.

Next, as shown in Fig. 10B, after a black resist added with a black color pigment in, for example, acryl photosensitive polymer is applied on the whole surface of the substrate 4, a black resist film is patterned with the photolithography method, a black matrix 12 is formed to cover the surface of the TFT. This black matrix 12 is not necessarily required in the case where the light endurance of the TFT is not sufficient. For example, after a resist added with red color, green-color, or blue-color pigments in, for example, acryl photosensitive polymer is applied on the whole surface of the substrate 4, the resist film is patterned with the photolithography method followed by forming a color filter 13 on the insulation protection film 11. Next, on the black matrix 12 and the color filter 13, an insulation protection film 14 is formed of, for example, acryl polymer or the like. This insulation protection film 14 is formed to prevent the mixture of toxic material such

as ions or the like from the black matrix 12 and/or the color filter 13 into the liquid crystal 3 formed as described later.

Next, after a contact hole 17 is formed which exposes
5 the source electrode 10 by the photolithography method on the black matrix 12 and the insulation protection film 14, an ITO film is formed on the whole surface of the substrate 4 including this contact hole 17 by the sputtering method followed by patterning the ITO film with the
10 photolithography method to form a pixel electrode 15 having a desired configuration. Next, a liquid crystal orientation layer 16 is formed of polyimide on the pixel electrode 15.

In the above procedure, a substrate 1 on which a liquid crystal driving element is formed is obtained.

15 Next, as shown in Fig. 11A, the surface (the surface which constitutes a side of a liquid crystal 3) of this second transparent insulation substrate 21 is processed by using the second transparent insulation substrate 21 formed of glass or the like and having a thickness of 0.5 to 1.5mm,
20 so that the uneven portion 24 is formed in such a manner that the height difference between a top portion 24A and a valley portion 24B becomes the same or not more than the thickness (3 to 10 μm) of the liquid crystal 3 used in the case where the reflection-type color liquid crystal display
25 apparatus is assembled later.

Here, as a process method for forming the uneven portion 24 on the second transparent insulation substrate 21, the sand blast method as shown in Fig. 12 is used to from

the uneven portion 24. That is, on a surface opposite to the liquid crystal 3 of the second transparent insulation substrate 21, the uneven portion 24 is formed by blowing a ground powder 19 from the grinding nozzle 18. In this case, the powder diameter of the grinding powder 19, and the blowing speed is adjusted so that the roughness and the depth of the uneven portion 24 is controlled.

Furthermore, as another processing method for forming the uneven portion 24 on the second transparent insulation substrate 21, the photo-etching method as shown in Fig. 13 is used. That is, after a resist film 20 is formed at random on the surface of the second transparent insulation film 21 opposite to the liquid crystal 3, the uneven portion 24 is formed by the dry etching and the photo-etching by using this resist film 20 as a mask. In this case, since a highly fine mask can be formed by forming the resist film 20 with the photolithography method, so that the roughness and the depth of the uneven portion 24 can be controlled to desired range.

Next, as shown in Fig. 11A, an acryl film or a polyimide film is formed by such as the SOG (Spin On Glass) method or the printing method, so that a flattened film 25 is formed to cover the uneven portion 24 of the second transparent insulation film substrate 21. As a consequence, light scattering mechanism is constituted which comprises the recessed portion 24 and the flattened film 25. Next, the ITO film is formed on the whole surface of the substrate 21 by the sputtering method. After a common opposite

electrode 22 is formed, a liquid crystal orientation layer 23 is formed of polyimide on the opposite electrode 22.

Through such a procedure, the opposite substrate 2 is formed.

5 Next, the reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus is completed which has a structure as shown in Figs. 6 and 7, by using the liquid crystal driving element formation substrate 1 and the opposite substrate 2 obtained in the above process to arrange the uneven portion 24 of the
10 opposite substrate 2 to be placed on the side of the liquid crystal 3 thereby sandwiching, between the two substrates 1 and 2, the liquid crystal 3 formed of, for example, a nematic liquid crystal.

 In this manner, in the reflection-type color liquid
15 crystal display apparatus having a structure of the first embodiment, the opposite substrate 2 is formed which comprises a second transparent insulation substrate 21 formed of glass or the like and having an uneven portion 24 on the side of the liquid crystal 3, a flattened film 25
20 formed of acryl or polyimide so as to cover the uneven portion 24 of the second transparent insulation substrate 21, a common opposite electrode 22 formed of ITO or the like on the flattened film 25 and a liquid crystal orientation layer 23 is formed, and the light scattering mechanism is
25 constituted of the uneven portion 24 and the flattened film 25 with the result that the starting point of scattering on the opposite substrate 2 can be set to a point near from the liquid crystal 3 thereby making it possible to decrease the

generation of undesirable light such as mixed color light or uncontrollable light.

Furthermore, in the reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus having a structure of the first embodiment, since the light scattering mechanism is constituted by forming the uneven portion 24 of the second transparent insulation substrate 21 on the side of the liquid crystal 3 which serves as the opposite substrate 2, the light scattering mechanism can be provided in an easy method.

Consequently, in the case where the light scattering mechanism is provided to display a white color, contrast and visibility can be improved.

(Second Embodiment)

Fig. 14 is a sectional view showing a structure of the reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus according to a second embodiment of the present invention. The point in which the reflection-type color display apparatus is largely different from the structure of the first embodiment described above is that the uneven portion 40 having decreased degree of the unevenness is formed, the formation of the flattened film 25 is made unnecessary, and the light scattering mechanism is constituted.

That is, in the second embodiment, as shown in Fig. 14, the uneven portion 40 formed on the side of liquid crystal 3 of the second transparent insulation substrate 21 is such that the height difference between the top portion 40A and the valley portion 40B is smaller than the case of the first

embodiment, and is formed to a thickness of approximately 1 μm or less thereby constituting light scattering mechanism. On the uneven portion 40, a common opposite electrode 22 is formed of ITO or the like, and on the opposite electrode 22, a liquid crystal orientation layer 23 is formed of polyimide or the like respectively. In this manner even when the light scattering mechanism is constituted by forming an uneven portion 40 having a small degree of unevenness, the light scattering mechanism can display a sufficient function.

As the process method for forming the uneven portion 40, in the same manner as the case of the first embodiment, the sand blast method shown in Fig. 12 and the photo-etching method shown in Fig. 13 can be used. In particular, in the case of the second embodiment, it is desirable to use the photo-etching method which enables a high precision processing.

Except for the above, the second embodiment is approximately the same as the first embodiment. Consequently, in Fig. 14, each portion corresponding to the constituent portion of the first embodiment shown in Figs. 6 and 7 are denoted by same reference numerals, and an explanation thereof will be omitted.

In this manner, with the structure of the second embodiment, approximately the same advantage can be provided as has been described in the first embodiment.

In addition, according to the structure of the second embodiment, the planarization is further made unnecessary.

(Third Embodiment)

Fig. 15 is a sectional view showing a structure of a reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus according to a third embodiment of the present invention. The point in which the structure of the reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus according to the third embodiment of the invention is largely different from the structure of the first embodiment lies in the fact that the uneven insulation film 41 is formed on the surface of the transparent insulation substrate 21 from the outside, the formation of the uneven configuration on the substrate 21 itself is made unnecessary so that the light scattering mechanism is constituted.

That is, in the third embodiment, as shown in Fig. 15, for example, an acryl film and a polyimide film are formed on the side of the liquid crystal 3 on the surface of the second transparent insulation substrate 21, so that the light scattering mechanism is constituted. The height difference between the top portion 41A and the valley portion 41B of the uneven insulation film 21 is formed on the same degree as the second embodiment. On the uneven insulation film 41, a common opposite electrode 22 is formed of ITO or the like, and on the opposite electrode 22, a liquid crystal orientation layer 23 is formed of polyimide or the like. In this manner, even when the light scattering mechanism is constituted of the uneven insulation film 41 formed from the outside on the second transparent insulation film 21, the light scattering mechanism can display a sufficient function.

As a method for forming the uneven insulation film, in the state in which a resist is applied on the surface of the second transparent insulation substrate at random, the uneven insulation film 41 can be formed by removing the resist film after an acryl film or a polyimide film is formed by the SOG method or the printing method by using this resist as a mask.

The third embodiment is approximately the same as the first embodiment described above except for what has been described above. Consequently, in Fig. 15, each portion corresponding to the constituent portions of the first embodiment shown in Figs. 6 and 7 are denoted by like reference numerals, and an explanation thereof will be omitted.

In this manner, with the structure of the third embodiment, approximately the same advantage can be obtained with the constitution of the first embodiment.

In addition, the formation the uneven portion can be made easy in the constitution of the third embodiment than the formation thereof on the substrate 21 itself.

(Fourth Embodiment)

Fig. 16 is a sectional view showing a structure of a reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus according to the fourth embodiment of the present invention. The point in which the reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus according to the fourth embodiment of the present invention is largely different from the structure of the third embodiment described above lies in the fact that

the uneven insulation film 41 formed from outside on the surface of the transparent insulation substrate 21 and a light scattering auxiliary film 42 having a different refraction index constitute the light scattering mechanism.

5 That is, in the fourth embodiment, as shown in Fig. 16, an uneven insulation film 41 formed on the surface of the second transparent insulation film 21 on the side of the liquid crystal 3 and a scattering auxiliary film formed on the uneven insulation film 41 and having a refraction index
10 different from the uneven insulation film 41 constitute the light scattering mechanism. In this case, the relation between the refraction index n_1 of the uneven insulation film 41 and the refraction index n_2 is set to be $n_1 > n_2$. On the scattering auxiliary film 42, a common opposite
15 electrode 22 is formed of ITO or the like and, on the opposite electrode 22, a liquid crystal orientation layer 23 is formed of polyimide or the like. Even when the light scattering mechanism is constituted with the combination of the uneven insulation film 41 and the scattering auxiliary
20 film 42 which have different refraction index, the light scattering mechanism can display a sufficient function.

In this manner, with the structure of the fourth embodiment, the fourth embodiment can provide approximately the same advantage as described in the third embodiment.

25 In addition, with the structure of the fourth embodiment, the fourth embodiment can suppress the degree of scattering with the scattering auxiliary film 42.

(Fifth Embodiment)

Fig. 17 is a sectional view showing a structure of a reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus according to a fifth embodiment of the invention. The point in which the structure of the reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus which is the fifth embodiment of the present invention is largely different from the structure of the third embodiment is that the uneven insulation film 41 formed from the outside on the surface of the transparent insulation substrate 21 and the flattened film 25 constitute the light scattering mechanism.

That is, in the present embodiment, as shown in Fig. 17, on the surface of the second transparent insulation substrate 21 on the side of the liquid crystal 3, for example, an acryl film or a polyimide film are formed from outside, and the uneven insulation film 41 is formed, and the uneven insulation film 41 which is covered with the flattened film 25 thereby constituting the light scattering mechanism. On the flattened film 25 the common opposite electrode 22 is formed of ITO or the like, and on the opposite electrode 22, a liquid crystal orientation layer 23 is formed of polyimide or the like, respectively. In this manner, even when the uneven insulation film 41 formed from the outside on the surface of the second transparent insulation film 21 and the flattened film 25 constitutes the light scattering mechanism, the light scattering mechanism can display a sufficient function.

In this manner, with the structure of the fifth embodiment, the fifth embodiment can provide approximately

the same advantage as described in the third embodiment.

(Sixth Embodiment)

Fig. 18 is a sectional view showing a structure of a reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus according to a sixth embodiment of the present invention. The point in which the structure of the reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus which is the sixth embodiment is largely different from the fifth embodiment described above lies in the fact that the uneven insulation film 41 formed from the outside on the transparent insulation substrate 21 and a flattened and scattering auxiliary film 43 constitute the light scattering mechanism.

That is, in the sixth embodiment, as shown in Fig. 18, an acryl film or a polyimide film are formed from outside on the surface of the second transparent insulation substrate 21 on the side of the liquid crystal 3, and the uneven insulation film 41 is formed so that the uneven insulation film 41 is covered with the flattened and a scattering auxiliary film to constitute the light scattering mechanism. On the flattened and scattering auxiliary film 43, the common opposite electrode 22 is formed of ITO or the like, and on the opposite electrode 22, a liquid crystal orientation layer is formed of polyimide or the like, respectively. In this manner, even when the light scattering mechanism is constituted of the uneven insulation film 41 formed from the outside on the surface of the second transparent insulation film 21 and the flattened and scattering auxiliary film 43, the light scattering mechanism

can display a sufficient function.

In this manner, with the structure of the sixth embodiment, the sixth embodiment can provide approximately the same advantage.

5 Thus, the embodiment of the present invention has been described in detail, but the concrete structure is not restricted to the above embodiment. The change in the design which is not deviated from the scope of the gist of the present invention is also included in the present
10 invention. For example, as a switching element for driving the liquid crystal, there is shown an example using the TFT as the switching element for driving the liquid crystal. The present invention is not restricted thereto. Other switching element such as a diode or the like can be used.

15 Furthermore, as the liquid crystal driving element formation substrate, a transparent insulation substrate is used to form a switching element thereon. The present invention is not restricted thereto. Other substrate such as the semiconductor substrate formed of the silicon
20 substrate or the like is used to form the switching element. Furthermore, one example is shown with respect to the conditions such as method for forming each kind of insulation film and conductive film or the like, the thickness thereof and the like, it can be modified according
25 to purpose or use.

What is claimed is:

1. A reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus comprising:
 - a substrate on which a liquid crystal driving element
 - 5 is formed;
 - an opposite substrate which is opposite to said driving element formation substrate;
 - a liquid crystal sandwiched between said driving element formation substrate and said opposite substrate;
 - 10 a color filter provided on the driving element formation substrate; and
 - light scattering mechanism provided on the liquid crystal side surface of the opposite substrate.
2. The reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus according to claim 1, wherein
 - 15 said opposite substrate has a transparent insulation substrate, and
 - said light scattering mechanism comprises uneven portions formed on the surface of the liquid crystal side of
 - 20 said transparent insulation substrate.
3. The reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus according to claim 2, wherein
 - said light scattering mechanism comprises a flattened film formed to cover the uneven portion formed on the
 - 25 surface of the transparent insulation substrate.
4. The reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus according to claim 1, wherein
 - said opposite substrate has a transparent insulation

substrate, and

said light scattering mechanism comprises an uneven insulation film formed from outside on the surface of the liquid crystal of the transparent insulation substrate.

5 5. The reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus according to claim 4, wherein

said light scattering mechanism comprises a scattering auxiliary film formed on the uneven insulation film and having a refraction index different from the uneven
10 insulation film.

6. The reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus according to claim 5, wherein

said refraction index of the uneven insulation film is larger than that of the scattering auxiliary film.

15 7. The reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus according to claim 4, wherein

said light scattering mechanism comprises a flattened film formed to cover the uneven insulation film.

8. The reflection-type color liquid crystal display
20 apparatus according to claim 4, wherein

said light scattering mechanism comprises a flattened film and scattering auxiliary film formed to cover the uneven insulation film.

9. A method for manufacturing a reflection-type color
25 liquid crystal display apparatus, wherein a liquid crystal is sandwiched between a liquid crystal driving element formation substrate and an opposite substrate, and a color filter is provided on the liquid crystal driving element

formation substrate; the method comprising the steps of:

forming a liquid crystal driving element on a first transparent insulation film;

then, forming at least a color filter on the
5 transparent insulation film to form a liquid crystal driving element formation substrate;

forming an opposite substrate provided with light scattering mechanism on a surface of a second transparent insulation substrate; and

10 sandwiching a liquid crystal between the liquid crystal driving element substrate and the opposite substrate by arranging the opposite substrate such that the light scattering mechanism of the opposite substrate is positioned on the side of the liquid crystal.

15 10. The method for manufacturing the reflection type color liquid crystal display apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the light scattering mechanism is provided so as to include the uneven portion.

20 11. The method for manufacturing the reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus according to claim 10, wherein the uneven portion is formed by the process method including the sand blast method and the photo-etching method.

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An opposite substrate of a reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus has a transparent insulation substrate made of glass or the like. An uneven
5 portion is formed on a surface of the substrate on the side of a liquid crystal. A flattened film made of acryl, polyimide or the like is formed to cover the uneven portion of the transparent insulation substrate. A common opposite
10 electrode made of ITO or the like is formed on the flattened film. A liquid crystal orientation layer made of polyimide or the like is formed on the opposite electrode. A light scattering mechanism is constituted of said uneven portion of the transparent substrate and the flattened film.

FIG. 1
(PRIOR ART)

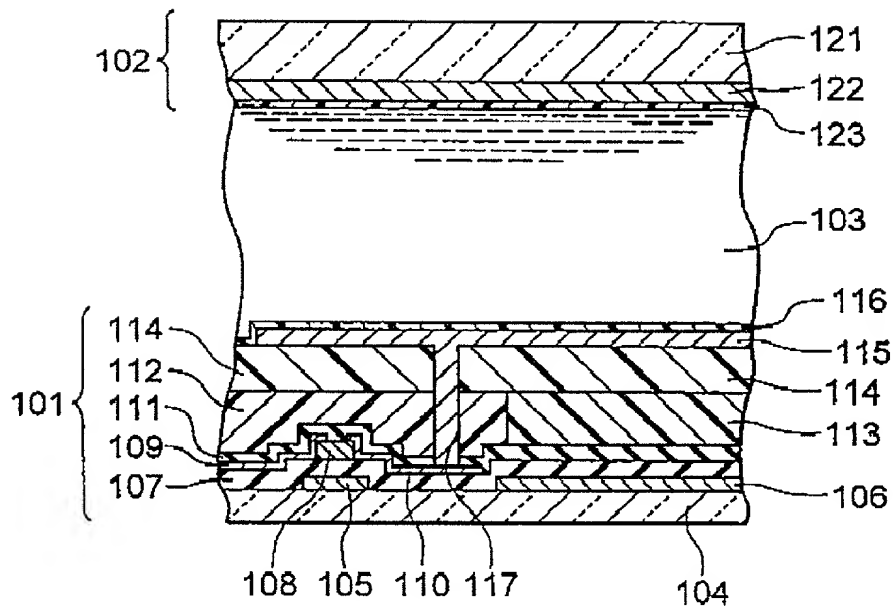


FIG. 2
(PRIOR ART)

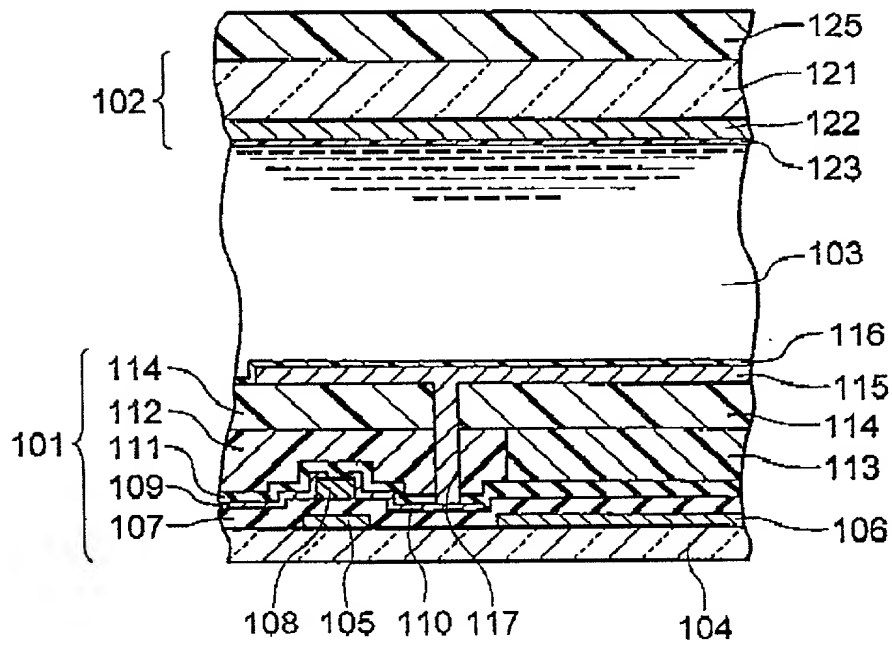


FIG. 3
(PRIOR ART)

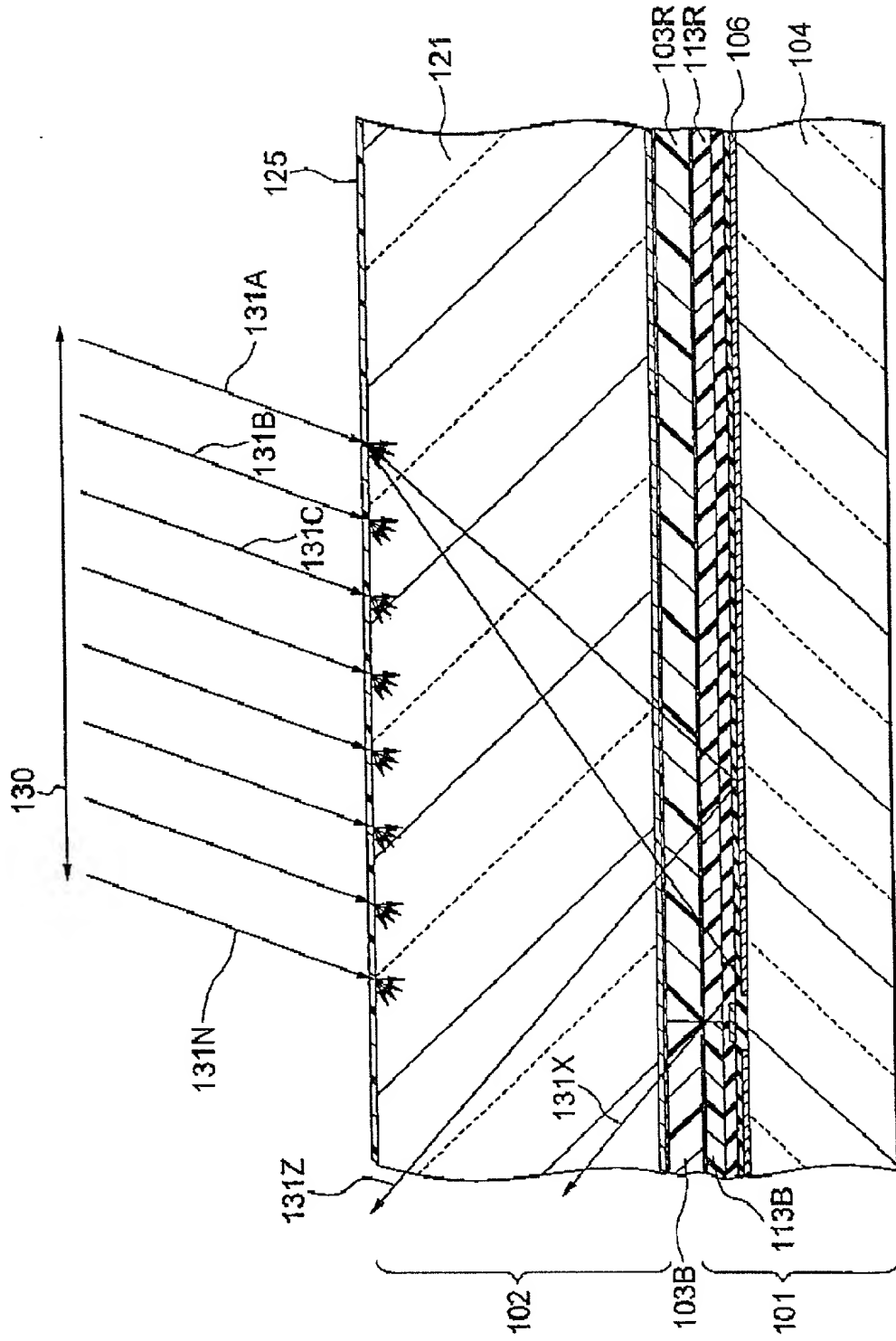


FIG. 4
(PRIOR ART)

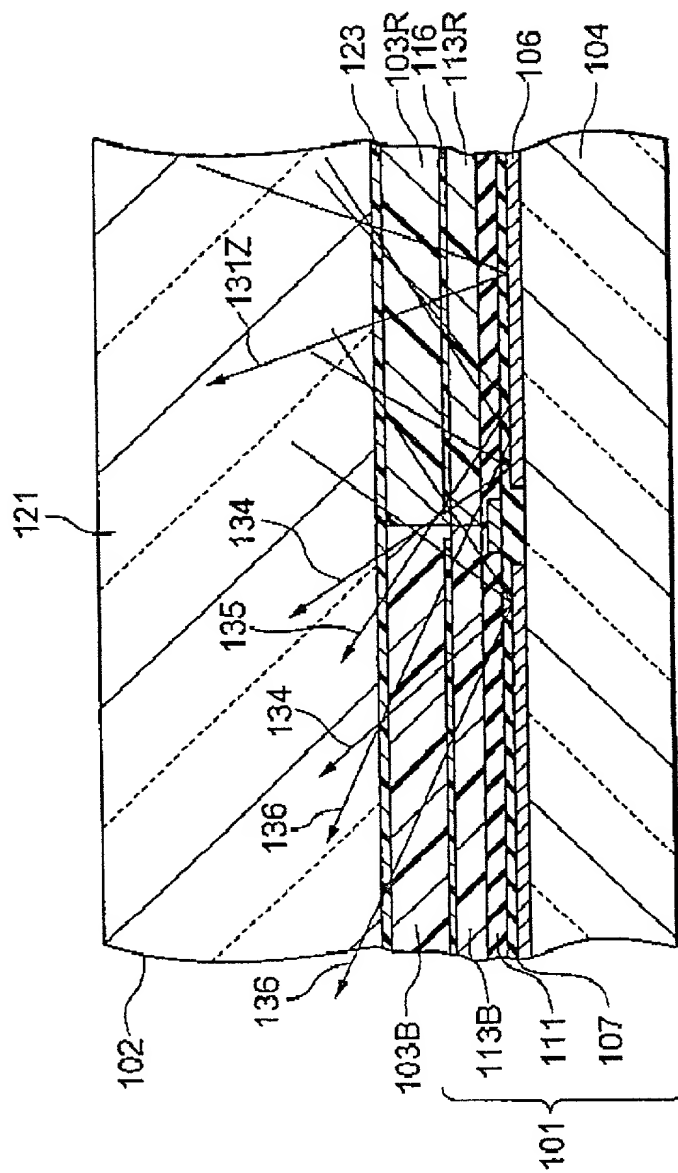


FIG. 5
(PRIOR ART)

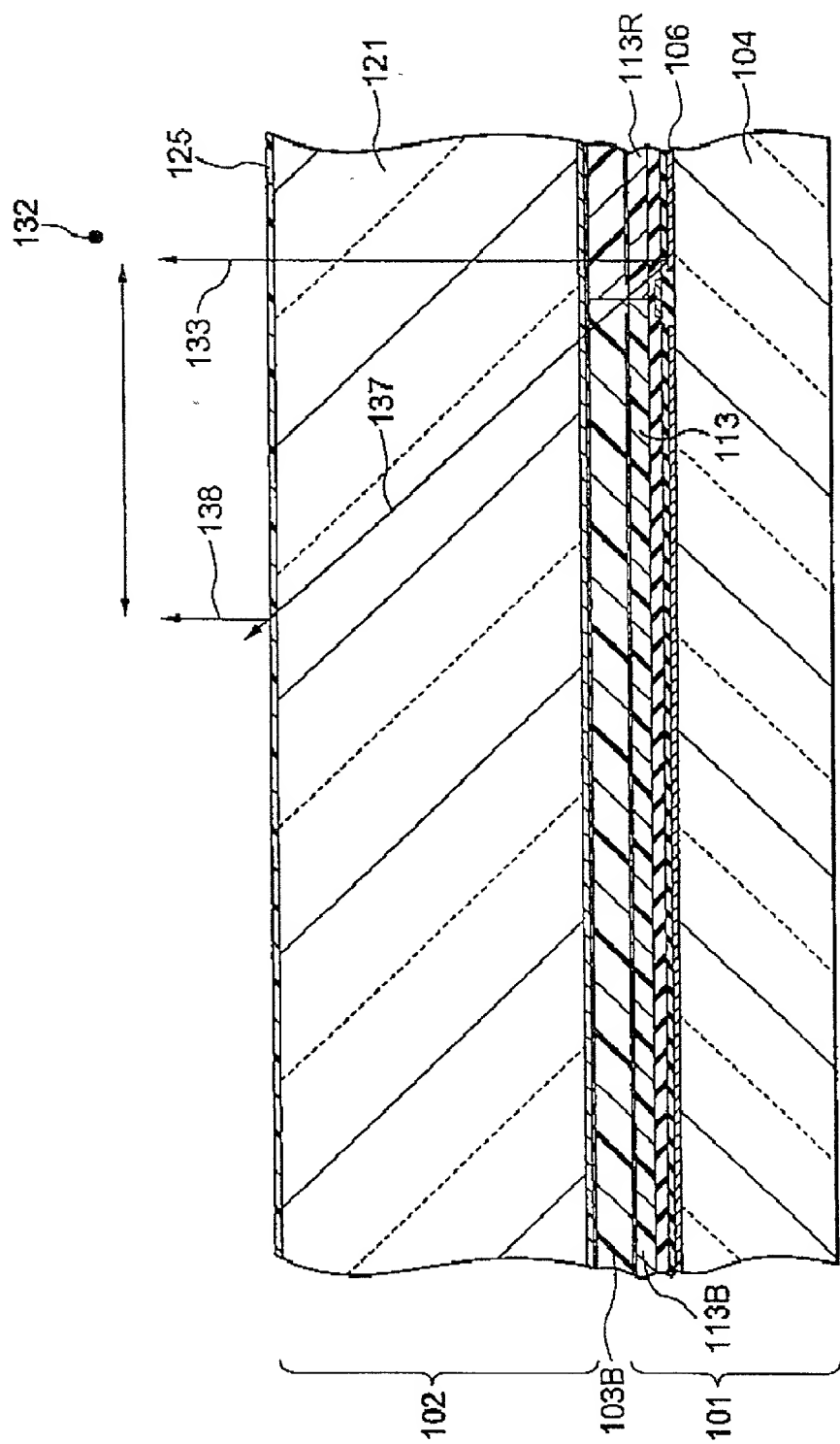


FIG. 6

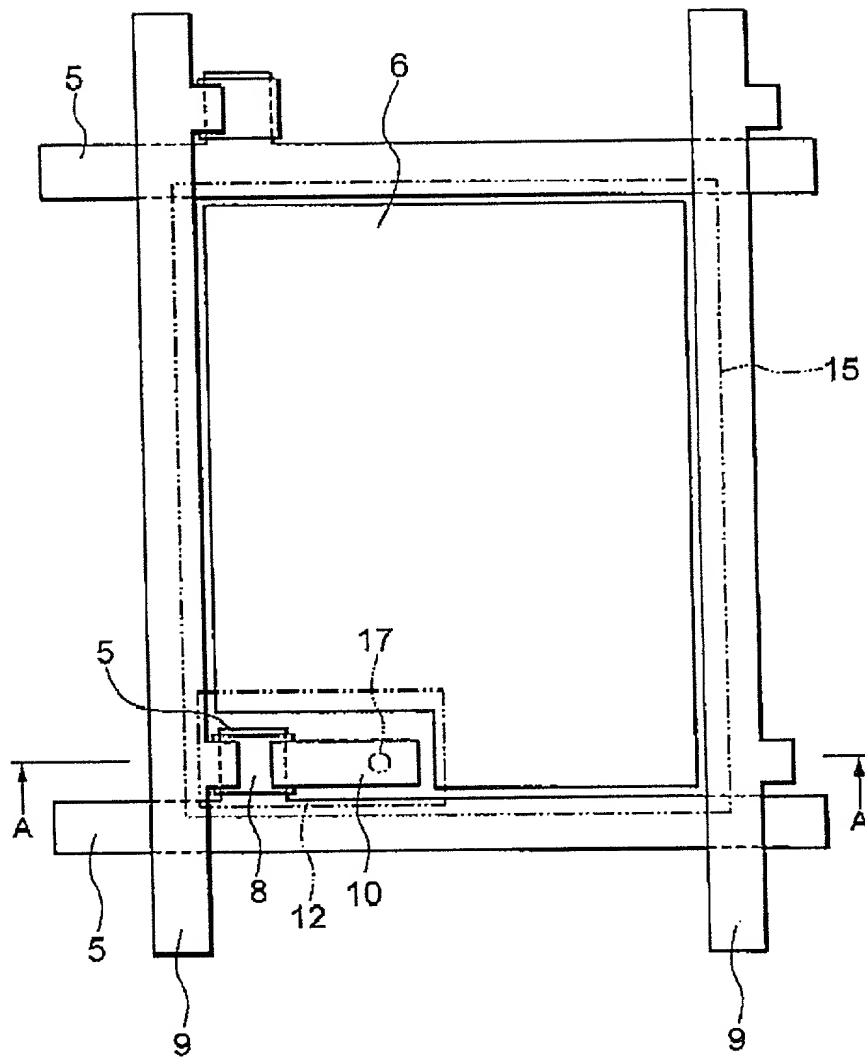


FIG. 7

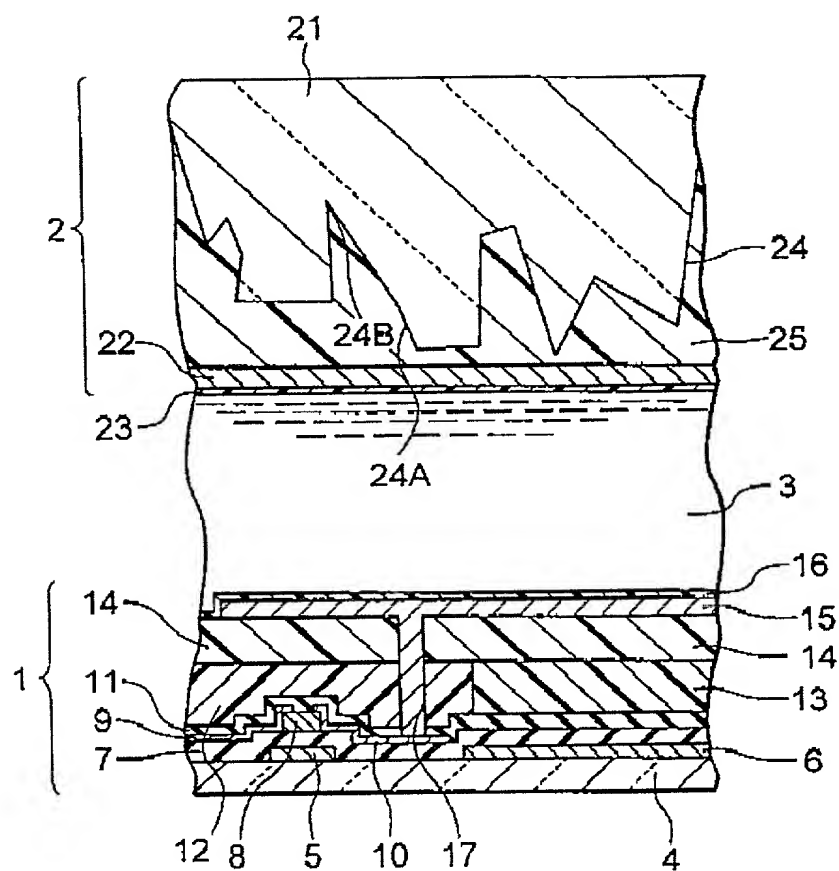


FIG. 8

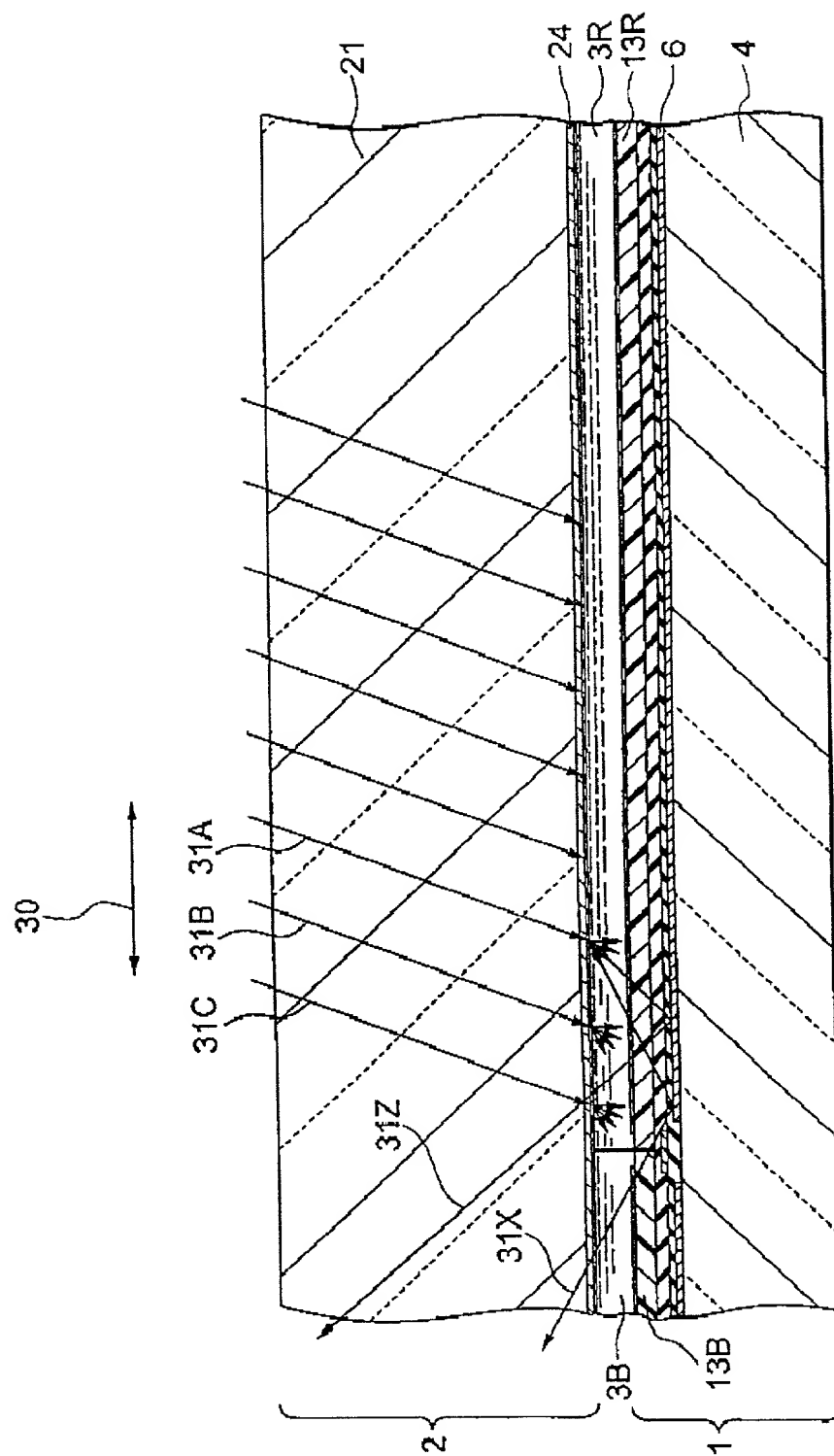


FIG. 10A

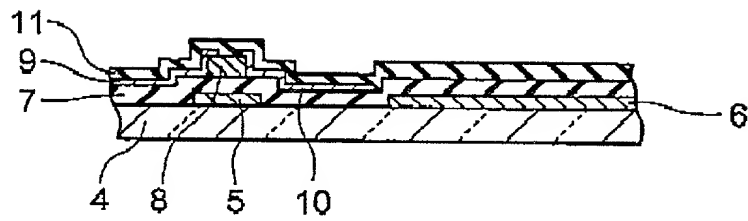


FIG. 10B

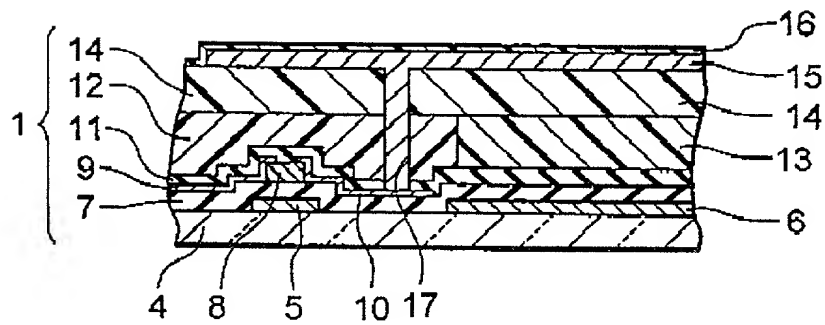


FIG. 11A

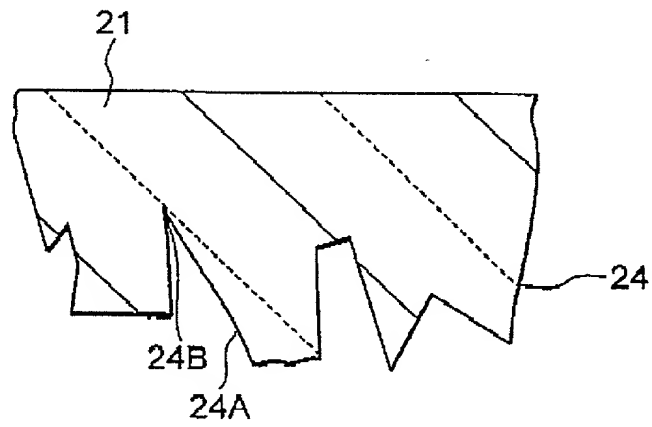


FIG. 11B

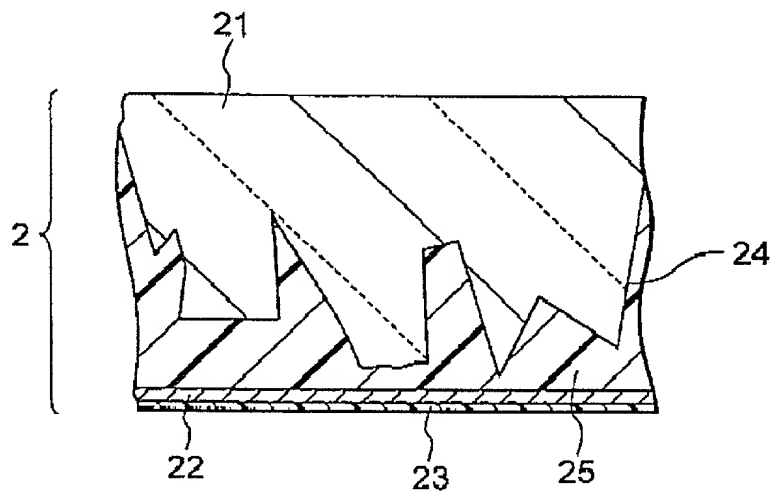


FIG. 12

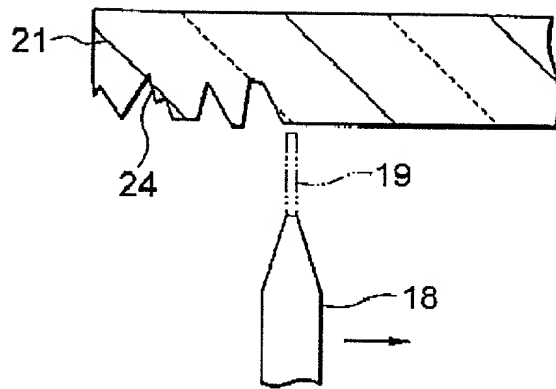


FIG. 13

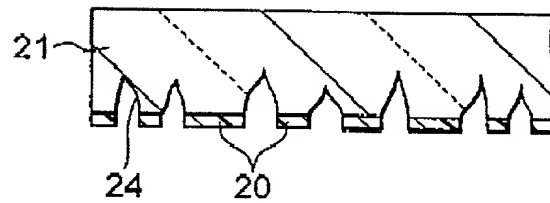


FIG. 14

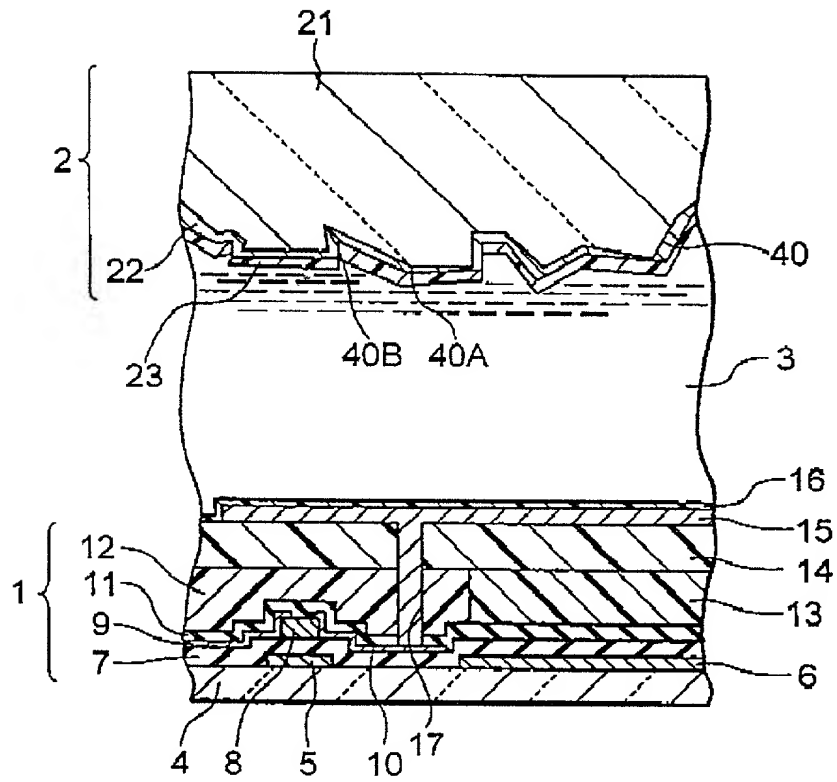


FIG. 15

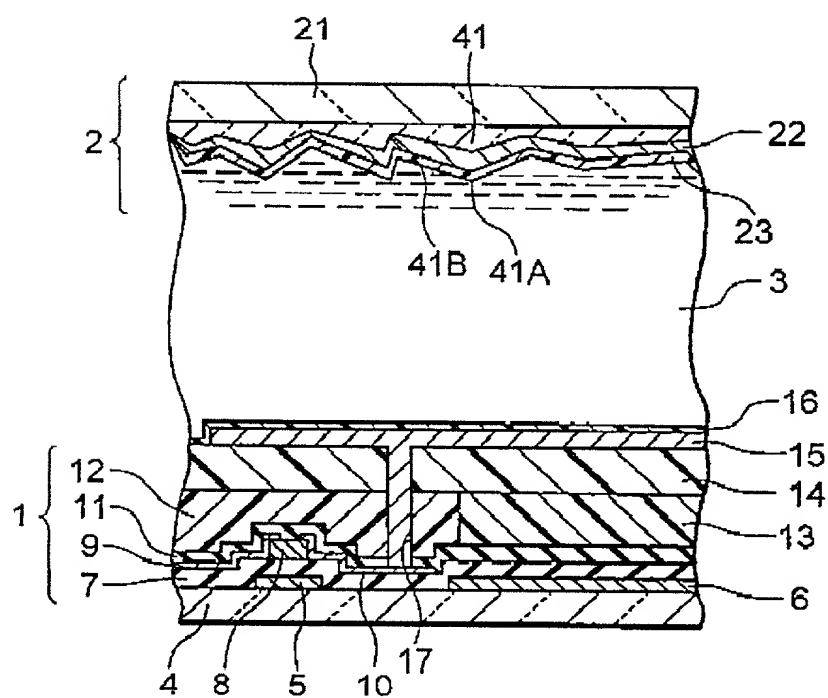


FIG. 16

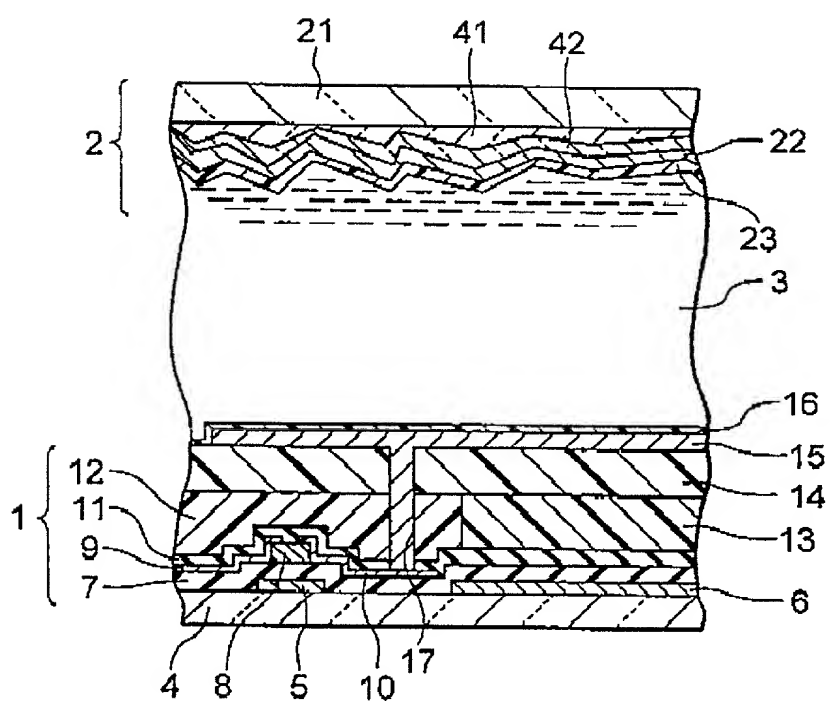


FIG. 17

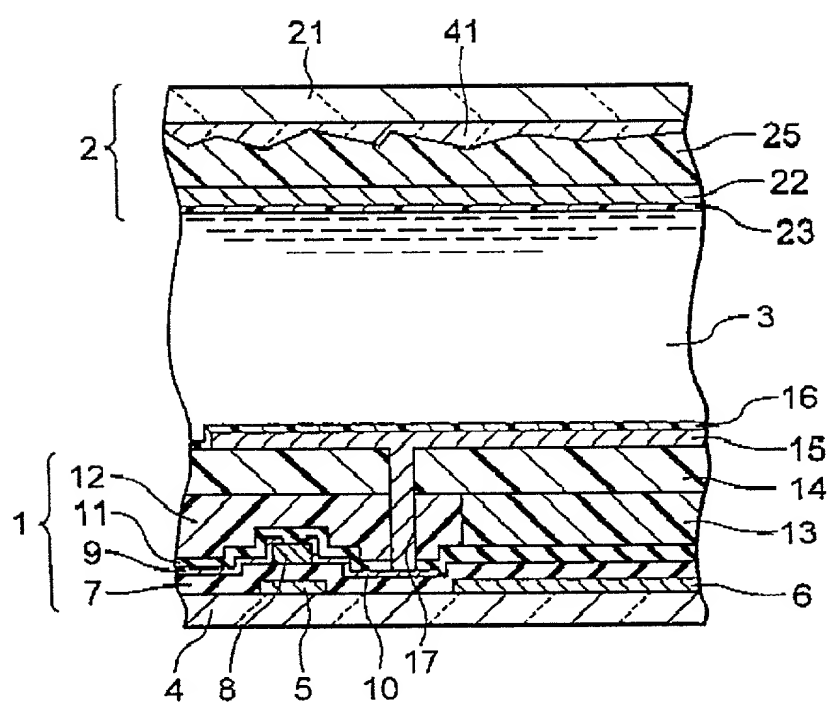
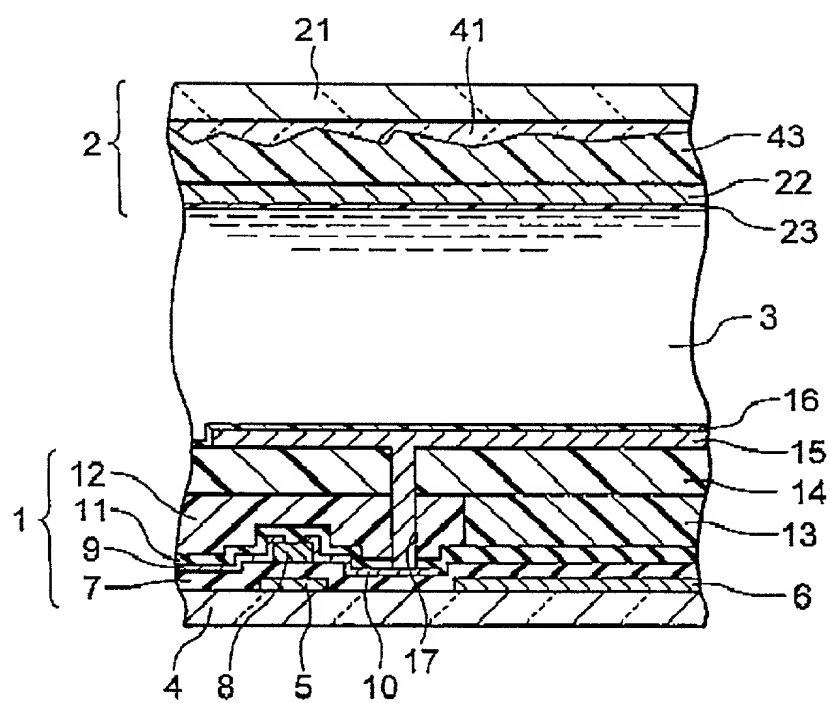


FIG. 18



DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR PATENT APPLICATION

Attorney Docket No:	NEC 00FN054		
First Named Inventor:	Hironori KIKKAWA		
Complete if known: Serial No:		Filing Date:	OCTOBER 17, 2000
Group Art Unit:		Examiner:	

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled REFLECTION-TYPE COLOR LIQUID CRYSTAL
DISPLAY APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING THE SAME, the
specification of which: ☒ is attached hereto or ☐ was filed on _____ as
application Serial No. _____, and was amended on _____ (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, S. 1.56(a).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate or of any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application(s):

<u>11-296002</u>	<u>Japan</u>	<u>10/18/1999</u>	<u>Priority Claimed</u>	<u>Certified Copy Attached</u>
(Number)	(Country)	(Month/Day/Year Filed)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
(Number)	(Country)	(Month/Day/Year Filed)		

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

Application No: _____ Filing Date: _____

002101 DEC 06 2000

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. 120 of any United States application(s), or 365(c) of any PCT international application designating the United States of America, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

US Parent Application No.
or PCT Parent Appln. No.

Parent Filing Date

Parent Patent Number
(if applicable)

And I hereby appoint HAYES, SOLOWAY, HENNESSEY, GROSSMAN & HAGE, P.C., a firm composed of Oliver W. Hayes, Reg. No. 15,867; Norman P. Soloway, Reg. No. 24,315; William O. Hennessey, Reg. No. 32,032; Susan H. Hage, Reg. No. 29,646; Steven J. Grossman, Reg. No. 35,001; and Edmund Paul Pfleger, Reg. No. 41,252, or any of them, of 175 Canal Street, Manchester, New Hampshire 03101 (Telephone: 603-668-1400) my attorneys with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent Office connected therewith.

Please direct all future correspondence in connection with this application to the attention of Norman P. Soloway HAYES, SOLOWAY, HENNESSEY, GROSSMAN & HAGE, P.C., 175 Canal Street, Manchester, New Hampshire 03101 (Telephone: 603-668-1400).

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

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